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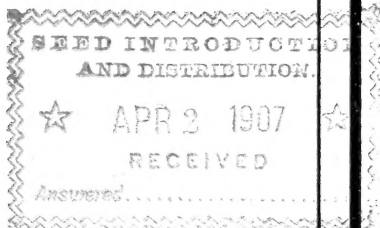
1907

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# CATALOGUE

OF

# Rare Water Lilies



RAISED AND FOR SALE BY

## GEO. RICHARDSON

Warren, Trumbull County, Ohio



1907

CATALOGUE  
OF  
Rare Water Lilies

The Oriental Nelumbium (Sacred Lotus) and its  
Varieties, White, Yellow and Pink Lilies



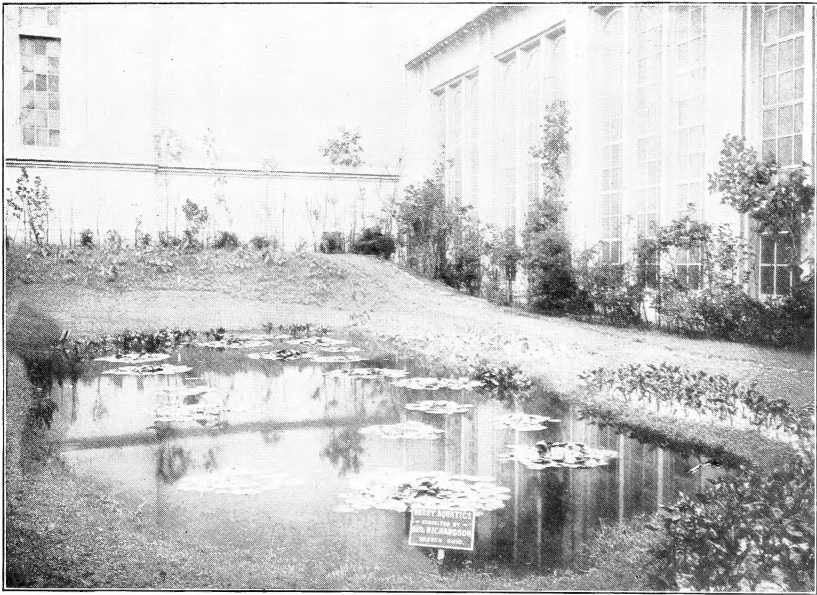
RAISED AND FOR SALE BY

GEORGE RICHARDSON

Warren, Trumbull Co., O.



GEO. RICHARDSON



The above picture of one of my ponds on the World's Fair Grounds, at St. Louis, was taken in August by The American Florist Co. These plants were sent from here May 4th. By mistake they were stored away in the Horticultural building and forgotten. By the time they were found and planted it was over two weeks from the time they were shipped. On June 4th, (just a month after they were shipped) they were in bloom. On July 6th, I was on the grounds, and counted 58 blossoms on the pond from which the above picture was taken. The other pond had 49 blossoms. These were the only aquatics in bloom on the Fair Grounds at that time. A silver medal was awarded my display, which was the highest prize given to hardy aquatics. This certainly speaks well for my plants and my way of packing.

Mr. George Richardson,  
Warren, Ohio.

Dear Sir: Since writing you last we received the first shipment of Water Lilies which were received for by some one and laid in the Horticulture Building for 10 days. However, they are now planted and doing better than any others that are here on exhibit. We will look out for the second shipment which you sent and they will be planted with due care. I do not think you will be very unlucky in this Exposition experience as your shipment is doing fine and no one else will get the credit for it.

Kindly send signs regulation size 8x18 inches. Four would be sufficient.

Very truly yours,

F. W. TAYLOR,  
Chief, Department of Horticulture.

# THE NYMPHAEA

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Everybody loves the fragrant Water Lily, and during the past few years so many beautiful varieties have been added to the list that almost every person can find their ideal flower among them. A pond of aquatics is one of the greatest attractions. I live far out in the country, yet during the summer months, thousands of people from the cities, from five to twenty miles distant, drive here to see the flowers, and not only once, but they come and come again. The flowers are used extensively for decorations. Their use as cut flowers, and the interest shown by amateurs, private gardeners and florists, and the increasing demand for these plants all over the country, is proof of their popularity. The cultivation of Nymphæas is the simplest. In no other class of plants can it be so truthfully said that "They grow themselves." The trouble seems to be that people generally do not realize how easily they can be grown. Their requirements are sunshine, water and plenty of rich soil. They may be planted in ponds, lakes or sluggish streams. Any place where water remains the year round. And even if the water does dry up for a few weeks little harm is done. The following list is the most desirable of the hardy Nymphæas.

## Nymphaea Tuberosa Richardsonii

About twenty years ago I found a plant growing among Nymphaea Tuberosa that was far superior to any other in the pond. It being either a sport or seedling it occurred to me that it would be a grand plant to improve. I placed it in a pond by itself. In course of years I succeeded in producing one that had blossoms of the largest size and almost, perfectly double. Its only fault was it was only a medium grower. For years I sold this improved variety under the name of Nymphæas Tuberosa. My customers all over the country were greatly pleased with it. In course of time I raised another plant that is a strong healthy grower and produces larger and more perfectly double flowers than the former. I made a pond for this new variety and one of my friends named it Nymphaea Tuberosa Richardsonii. This I consider the most perfect Water Lily in existence. Somebody may produce a better one, but I do not expect to and am making no attempt in that direction. It is pre-eminently a pond plant, being such a strong grower it soon spreads. It does well where the water is anywhere from five feet to nothing. It will stand either flood or drouth. It blooms all summer. The flowers stand well above the surface. The sepals and outer petals drooping, forming a perfect globe. No Nymphaea in my Water



Garden is admired by visitors more than this. The immense snowball-like flowers, from six to nine inches in diameter, are a sight to behold. I wish all who receive this catalogue could see this plant in full bloom; I would have no trouble selling it. Those who have a pond or sluggish stream, or any place where water remains the year around, would do well to plant this variety. Good strong plants 50 cents each; three for \$1.00.

### **Nymphaea Alba Gladstoniana**

This and the above I consider the two best Nymphaeas I ever introduced. My supply is limited so I will not give a lengthy description of it. It is an elegant grower. It is among the first to bloom in the spring and continues until frost. The blossoms are produced in abundance and are of the largest size, with very broad and thick petals, and is the clearest sparkling white of any known Water Lily. Price \$1.00 each; \$8.00 a dozen.

### **Nymphaea Alba Candidissima**

This is the largest flowered variety of the Water Lily in England. It is perfectly hardy in this country. The plant is a good healthy grower and from early spring until late in the fall it produces an immense number of good sized white blossoms. It is one of the very best varieties to grow for cut bloom. It does well where the water is from one to two feet deep. Good plants ready to bloom 50 cents each; six for \$2.00.

### **Nymphaea Superba**

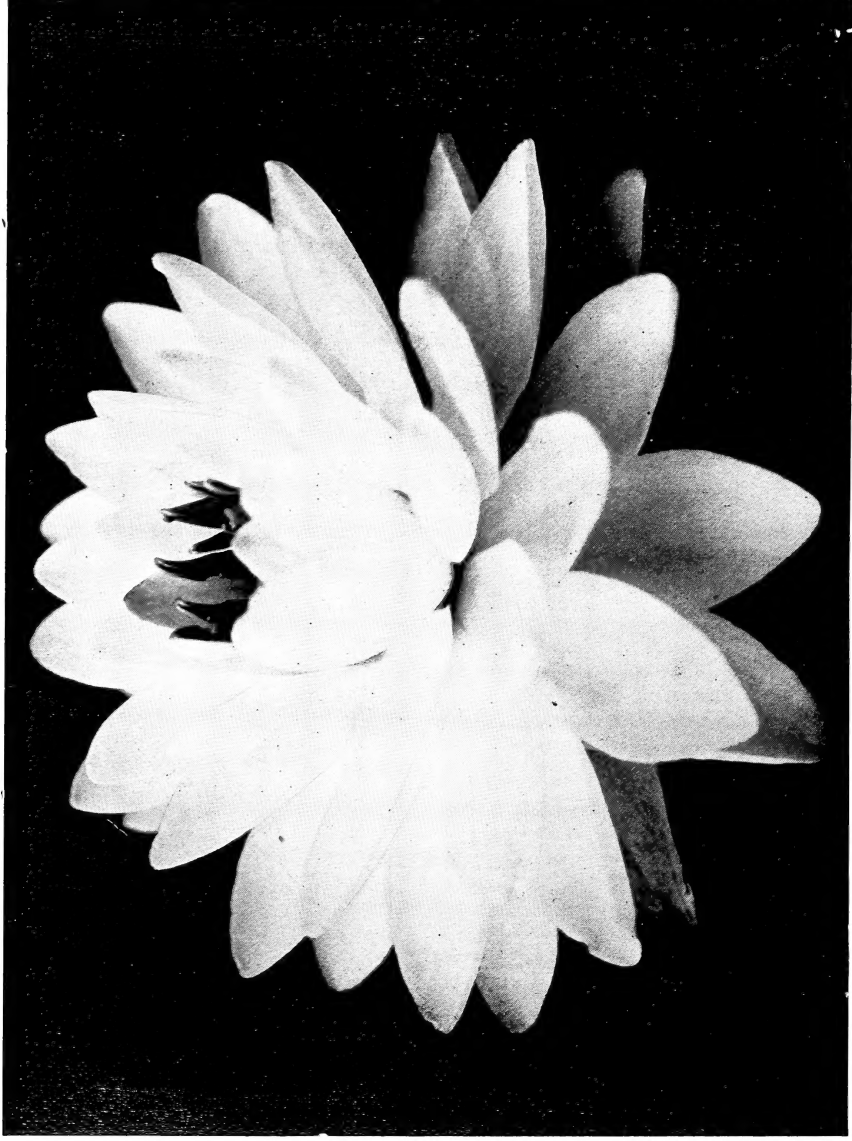
A very superior variety of the fragrant Pond Lily which I introduced a great many years ago. The flowers are much larger and more fragrant than those found in lakes. It is highly recommended for planting in fish ponds, for it is such a great grower that it soon spreads over a large pond, and vast quantities of insects accumulate on the stalks and under part of the leaves. This makes excellent food for the fish. Price, 20 cents each; ten for \$1.00.

### **Nymphaea Odorata**

The well known fragrant white Water Lily is frequently found growing in small lakes. Blossoms from three to five inches in diameter and very sweet scented. Price, 20 cents each; twelve for \$1.00.

### **Nymphaea Marliaca Chromatella**

I believe I have the largest and finest stock of this magnificent Water Lily there is in America. In color it is a clear golden yellow. No person can form an adequate idea of the beauty of a yellow Water Lily until they



NYMPHAEA TUBEROSA RICHARDSONII. ONE-HALF NATURAL SIZE.

have seen a pond of these magnificent blossoms shining in the sunlight like polished gold. Everybody should plant this flower. It is of the largest size, a profuse bloomer, a rampant grower, and as hardy as an oak. It is among the first to bloom in the spring and continues until frozen up in the fall. A pond of these in full bloom is a sight never to be forgotten. This plant should not be confounded with the almost worthless *Nymphaea Flava* that some dealers are offering their customers. The plants which I offer are all produced by division of the roots, therefore, are true to name. Those who desire seedlings should send to other dealers. These plants I can send out any time from the middle of April to the middle of August. They do best planted where the water is from one to three feet deep, and the mud is rich. Good plants ready to bloom 50 cents each; five for \$2.00; \$4.00 a dozen.

### ***Nymphaea Odorata Jessieana***

This lily will be a great surprise to a great many people who love rare aquatics. The blossoms are of good size, and in color they are perfect pink from base to point of petals. This is a color seldom, if ever, seen in *Nymphaea*. Price, \$2.00 each.

### ***Nymphaea Odorata Rosea***

This is the famous pink Water Lily about which so much has been written. It is the same as our native white Water Lily, except that it is of a deep pink color. It is one of the greatest of bloomers and has a delightful fragrance. The first flowers open about the last of May and it continues to bloom lavishly until late in September. It does best where the water is from fifteen to twenty inches deep. No collection is complete without a few roots of this beautiful flower. Good blooming roots 50 cents each; six for \$2.00.

### ***Nymphaea Odorata Caroliniana***

This grand hybrid cannot be too highly recommended. The plant is robust and very free-flowering, continuing until frost sets in. The flowers on well grown plants are very large, measuring seven inches in diameter. The color is of the clearest pink, deepening to the center of the flower, the gloden stamens reflecting a lovely salmon tint. A splendid variety in every respect. Price, \$1.00 each; \$8.00 a dozen.

### ***Nymphaea Marliaca Rosea***

This beautiful variety is of French origin, and one of the choicest of hardy pink Lilies. The large flowers with broad petals are freely produced from early spring until froze up in the fall. A single plant will produce blossoms every day during the entire season. Price, \$1.00 each; \$8.00 a dozen.

## Nymphaea James Brydon

For years I have been trying to get a red water lily that was worthy of the name. I have tried almost every variety that has been offered. But on account of some imperfection I do not offer them to my customers. But this variety is well worthy of a place in my catalogue. Flowers 5 to 6 inches in diameter, color rich rosey crimson. A free and continuous bloomer. Price, \$2.50 each.

## Nymphaea Mary Exquisita

This grand hybrid cannot be too highly recommended. It is a cross between N. O. Superba and N. O. Rosea. The blossoms are large like the former, and produced in profusion like the latter, and the fragrance is a combination of the two, which places it at the head of the sweet scented varieties. In color it is the most perfect flesh or light rose of any Water Lily that has come under my observation. Price, \$1.00 each.

## Nymphaea Mark Hanna

This lily has come to stay. During the past few years a great many pink Nymphæas have been introduced. Offered for sale in a gorgeous catalogue, with a big picture and a write up that will attract attention. After the plants have been tried for a year or two they are found wanting, and are soon discarded. This new lily is not one of that class. It is Nymphæa Alba Gladstoniana crossed with Nymphæa Devonensis and named after Uncle Marcus. How could it be anything but a leader. It is a splendid grower; does well where the water is anything less than three feet deep, (I have not tried it in deeper water.) I do not know of any hardy water lily that will produce a greater number of blossoms during the summer and fall than this variety, and they are among the largest of the Nymphæas. In color it is a deep pink, shaded with red and holds its color well to the end of the petals. And there is a brightness about it not found in other lilies. What Nymphæa Alba Gladstoniana is among white Nymphæas, and Nymphæa Marliaca Chromatella is among yellow, this new variety is among the pink. If other dealers had this plant they would ask a big price for it. But I am contented with small profits. I do not expect to sell many of these the first year or two, but when it becomes well known, I predict a great sale for it. Price, \$1.00 each.

(From Cleveland Plain Dealer, July, 1902.)

The latest tribute to the man who says he does not want to be president has come from the florists' hands. A large and beautiful species of the lily has been named the "Mark Hanna" lily in his honor.

It belongs to the water lily branch of a numerous floral family and is a rich pink in color. A big consignment of the new flowers came into Cleveland yesterday from Warren and the flowers achieved an instant popularity at the hands of the customers.

# THE ORIENTAL NELUMBIUM

## OR SACRED LOTUS

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Unlike other aquatic plants, these are of a rambling nature and soon overspread a large pond. They will run out from ten to twenty feet the first year they are planted. The flowers and leaves are borne on strong foot stalks rising three or four feet above the surface of the water. They commence to bloom about the first of July and continue until frozen up in the fall. At first they open like a gigantic tulip and emit a delightful fragrance. In their last stage of expansion they are from eight to twelve inches across. the leaves themselves are very beautiful. They are perfectly round and from twelve to thirty inches in diameter. I have had some so large that when laid on top of a large washtub they would project over two or three inches all around. With their immense, bright colored flower, and dark leaves, rising three or four feet above the surface of the water, and all waving in the wind, is a sight worth going miles to see.

They are perfectly hardy. When we speak of an aquatic being hardy, we do not mean, however, that it will stand actual freezing, but if placed in the water below the reach of frost, it will endure the winter.

The roots which are to remain in the ground for the next year's growth go down from ten to twenty inches into the mud; then with from one to two feet of water over them there is little danger of frost reaching them.

They should not be planted until the late growing season has fully arrived. I have learned by experience that the best time to plant lotuses is from the middle of May to the middle of June.

These plants, like everything else, have their enemies. Worms and insects will eat the leaves, which sometimes spoils their appearance, and we find it necessary once in a while to spray them with some of the arsenical poisons. I usually use a heaping teaspoonful of London purple, with the same of lime, to a bucket of water. You need not be afraid of getting it too strong, for you cannot kill a lotus.



NELUMBUM ROSEUM PLENUM — ONE-FOURTH NATURAL SIZE

## Nelumbium Roseum Plenum

A magnificent variety with full double bright rose flowers of the largest size. It is beyond all question the grandest deep pink double lotus of the world. But the roots, which are to remain in the ground for next year's growth go down to such an unreasonable depth, and in the spring it takes so much work, patience and profanity to get them out that I care but little whether I receive orders for it or not. Price \$2.00 each.

## Nelumbium Shiroman

This superb variety is one of the grandest ever introduced. The enormous flowers are snow white, exceedingly double and borne on stout stalks well above the foliage. It is a vigorous grower and very free flowering. Other dealers are asking big prices for this plant, but I have a large pond and they have done so remarkably well that I can afford to sell them cheap. Price, \$2.00 each.

## New White Lotus

Nelumbum Albium Floribunda

Ever since I commenced growing aquatics I have been trying to get a white lotus that would bloom like the pink varieties, but until I got this plant I was not satisfied.

This new variety is without a fault. It is a strong, healthy grower. The blossoms are the largest I ever saw, and are produced in abundance from the first week in July until frozen up in the fall. My supply of this variety is quite limited, and I may not be able to fill all orders, but while they last I will offer them at \$1.00 each; \$10.00 a dozen.

## The Chinese Lotus

Nelumbium Roseum

This grand Lotus was introduced by me a great many years ago and is still conceded to be the best deep pink variety in America. It has such a deep shade of pink that a great many people call it the Red Lotus. It has a greater number of petals than other varieties and might be called double. It does not do well in a tub or small tank, but is at home in a pond, where it has room to spread. It is so remarkably hardy that it will endure the winter in any part of the United States. If the soil in the pond is not too hard the roots that are to remain for the next year's growth will go down from fifteen to twenty inches into the soil. Then with one or two feet of water there is little danger of frost reaching them. Price, \$1.00 each; \$8.00 a dozen.

## The Egyptian Lotus

*Nelumbium Speciosum*

This Lotus was cultivated in Egypt in most ancient times, where the seed was known as the "Sacred Bean." It was Cleopatra's favorite flower; and well it might be the favorite flower with anybody. The color is pink and the base of the petals white, and most beautifully and delicately shaded off toward the end into bright pink. No one can form an idea of how handsomely the white and pink are blended together until they have seen one of these gorgeous blossoms. The first day they open like a gigantic tulip and emit a delightful fragrance. In their last stages of expansion they measure from eight inches to a foot from tip to tip of petals. Good tubers, \$1.00 each; \$7.00 a dozen.

## The Japanese Lotus

*Nelumbium Kermesinum*

The more I see of this Lotus the better I like it. For years I had it growing where the soil was very poor, and, of course, it did not do well; but I enriched the soil and the past summer this pond was greatly admired. In color the flowers are a shade of pink, somewhat like the rose called *Hermosa*. It is one of the best of the Japan varieties and should be in every collection. Price \$1.00 each; \$8.00 a dozen.

## The American Lotus

*Nelumbium Luteum*

Though a native of this country it is not common. It is found in some of the southern and western states. The seed of this plant was highly prized by the Indians and was called the Sacred Wampum. Those who have read "The Song of Hiawatha" will remember the "Sacred Belt of Wampum." It was made from the hard shells that cover the seed of this plant. It is a true lotus, being the same as the imported varieties, save in color of the flower which is a clear sulphur yellow. It is greatly admired by many of the visitors at my ponds. Price \$1.00 each.

The above seven kinds all require the same kind of soil and treatment. They can be planted in the same pond if desired. It is a beautiful sight to see several kinds all growing together.

## SOIL FOR AQUATICS

Water plants will grow in almost any kind of soil, but perhaps the best is well rotted stable manure and sods mixed together in equal parts. I have noticed with aquatics, like many other plants, the richer the soil the more blossoms. Do not go to a creek or pond and get mud out of it for your water plants, as some will tell you, but instead use good garden soil and decayed manure, mixed together in equal parts. Put from six to twelve inches of this compost in the bottom of the tank or pond, and tramp it down well before letting in the water. In natural ponds or streams the soil will not need any preparation.



## TIME TO PLANT

The hardy Nymphæas may be planted at any time after they commence to grow until the first of August, although the middle of May is usually considered the best time. It is not advisable to plant too early, as it is very disagreeable work digging and planting while the water is very cold. Make a small trench in the mud with the hand and lay the root in it horizontally and cover it two or three inches with mud. If there are large fish in the pond place flat stones around it, to keep them from rooting it out, until it becomes well established.

Nelumbiums should not be planted before the 20th of May, as they refuse to grow if planted too early.

## INSECTS AND REMEDIES

Aquatics have no diseases, but are sometimes troubled with insects. Beware of muskrats, for they would just as soon destroy a high priced plant as a cheap one. The most common insect enemies of aquatics are the green and black aphides, which may be easily overcome by any of the insecticides recommended for their destruction on greenhouse plants. The greatest enemy of the Lotus is the leaf roller, which is first detected as a little white maggot making a web and rolling itself up in the margin of the leaves. Later it finds the leaf stalk and bores a hole down through the center to the root, which kills the leaf, the only material damage done. The best remedy is to spray them with some of the arsenical poisons. I usually use a heaping teaspoonful of London purple with the same amount of lime to a bucket of water. You need not be afraid of getting it too strong, for you cannot kill a Lotus. Always spray towards evening.

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If I so desired I could fill this catalogue with testimonials, but having been so long in the business, and so well known, I do not think it advisable. The plants that I send out are all the testimonials I desire.

### Highest Prize at St. Louis was Awarded to George Richardson for His Exhibit of Aquatic Plants

The farm of Mr. George Richardson in Lordstown, where the beautiful Water Lilies and Egyptian Lotus are raised in such profusion, has again added to the fame of Trumbull county, as the highest prize and a handsome silver medal have been awarded Mr. Richardson for his exhibit of aquatic plants at the World's Fair in St. Louis.

Mr. Richardson not only had a fine display at St. Louis, but he also had charge of the exhibit of aquatic plants, being recognized as an authority on them.

Hundreds of Warren people have seen the flowers growing in the ponds at the Lordstown farm, and they will all agree that the judges made no mistake in awarding the highest prize to Mr. Richardson.—Warren Chronicle,



Department of Parks and Squares,  
Office of Superintendent Clifton Park.

MR. GEORGE RICHARDSON,                      Baltimore, Md., March 28th, 1904.  
Warren, Ohio.

My Dear Sir: The plants that we have received from you, in the past season, could not have been finer. They have grown and flowered excellently, and have been very much admired by the many visitors to the Park. We are particularly well pleased with "Mark Hanna" and "Odorata Jessiana."

We have always received such very liberal treatment, that whenever in the future we are in need of anything in your line, you can depend, you will receive our order. I remain,

Very truly yours,  
N. F. FLITTON,

Clifton Park, Baltimore, Md.

GEO. RICHARDSON, Esq., Lordstown, Ohio.

Dear Sir:—I thought it impossible to buy lilies this year, but find it necessary to my happiness that I add a few to my last year's collection, purchased in the last year or two from your ponds. I only wish that you could see the wonderful success of our lilies. Only two years ago I purchased five from you and my pond is simply perfect. They are the only lilies in this city and from all quarters they draw the people. A gentleman visited the Aquatic Gardens of New York, and came back saying that "Our Lilies" from Lordstown far exceeded those of the eastern cities in size of bloom, strength of stem, size of leaves and gorgeous coloring.

MRS. C. C. FULTON,  
Portsmouth, Ohio.

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## COLLECTIONS

A great many people care nothing for the name of a plant just so it produces nice flowers. To accommodate such persons, I offer the following: These will be all good strong plants, true to name but not labeled. They will be packed in baskets and sent by express.

### Collection No. 1

One each of the six Nelumbiums, white, yellow, pink, light pink, deep pink and one double lotus, my selection.

The regular price of the above is \$7.00, but I will send them for \$4.00.

### Collection No. 2

- |                                  |        |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| 3 N. Odorata Rosea .....         | pink   |
| 3 N. Marliaca Chromatella .....  | yellow |
| 3 N. Tuberosa Richardsonii ..... | white  |
| 3 N. Odorata Superba .....       | white  |

Price, \$3.00.

### Collection No. 3

- 2 N. Alba Candidissima (large size).....white  
3 N. Marliaca Chromatella .....yellow  
2 N. Marliaca Rosea .....pink  
Price, \$2.00.

### Collection No. 4

- 2 N. A. Candidissima.....white | 2 N. O. Rosea ..... pink  
2 N. M. Chromatella.....yellow | 2 N. T. Richardsonii ..... white  
Price, \$2.00.

### Grand \$5.00 Collection No. 5

- 2 N. A. Gladstoniana.....white | 2 N. A. Candidissima ..... white  
2 N. M. Exquisita.....flesh | 2 N. T. Richardsonii ..... white  
2 N. M. Rosea.....pink | 2 N. M. Chromatella .....yellow  
Twelve good bloomnig plants all for \$5.00.

### REMARKS

The plants which I offer are grown by division of the roots, therefore, are true to name. I send out nothing but first-class plants. I have a number of testimonials of lilies blooming within a week from planting time. The Nymphæas are in bud when sent out, and if they have a half chance will be in bloom within a month. I have a large stock of extra large plants to select from. I strongly advise beginners to try some of the Nymphæas first, for they are certain to grow; then try Lotuses afterward.

Lotuses should not be planted until the weather becomes settled and warm, and not earlier than the 20th of May. But the Nymphæas can be planted any time from the middle of April to the middle of August.

Orders can be sent in at any time and I will place them on my books in the order in which they are received, and when the proper time comes, I will notify the purchaser several days before shipment.

No attention paid to orders from unknown persons unless accompanied by the cash. Many of the orders which I receive are from public places, these are not classed as unknown.

I grow all the plants that I offer for sale, and every order is packed on the banks of the ponds just as they are taken out of the water. This is a very important thing in water lily culture.

Lotuses should be unpacked very carefully so as not to break the sprout.

Please write your address very plainly. Give both Postoffice and Express office.

### CHANGE IN ADDRESS

We have not moved but the Lordstown postoffice has been discontinued, and instead we have Rural Free Delivery, the route starting from Warren. Please address,

GEO. RICHARDSON

WARREN, OHIO

R. F. D. No. 7. Box 59,

# The Demand for Water Lilies

There is such a growing demand for water lilies that it is almost impossible to supply it. Those who have a swamp where water remains the year around, or an abandoned fish pond, can find no more profitable investment than stocking it with water lilies. It will make the place very attractive, and you will soon find a ready sale for the blossoms. At the prices which I am offering plants this season it would not take many blossoms to pay for them. I am frequently asked how I can sell plants so low. My answer is this: "I make hardy aquatics my specialty. I have been in the business a great many years. I live in the country where land is cheap, therefore I can offer better plants and for less money than any other person in America."

The plants that I am offering are not delicate seedlings grown in two-inch pots, but are good strong plants grown in open ponds. Most of them bloomed last year, and having remained dormant during the winter, will be far superior to greenhouse grown plants.

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## Plants by Mail

It has been my custom to send plants by express, as much larger ones can be sent in that way than by mail, but to accommodate those who live at a distance and do not wish to pay express charges, I have decided to offer some of the best varieties by mail. In this way I cannot send as heavy plants as by express, but I will guarantee as good plants as any other dealer sends by mail.

My customers need not be afraid of the plants not reaching them in good condition, for I have sent plants by mail to England and they bloomed within six weeks after planting.

When ordering from this page say that you want them sent BY MAIL. When they arrive it would be a good idea to plant them in small boxes of good soil, and place them only two or three inches under water until they get well established. Then plant them where they are to remain.

*Nymphaea Marliaca Chromatella*, 40 cents each; three for \$1.00.

*Nymphaea Odorata Rosea*, 40 cents each; three for \$1.00.

*Nymphaea Alba Candidissima*, 50 cents each.

*Nelumbium Speciosum*, 75 cents each.

*Nelumbium Roseum*, 75 cents each.

*Nelumbium Kermesinum*, 75 cents each.

